

HARFORD COUNTY EXECUTIVE =

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County Executive Glassman Invites Citizen Input on Harford's FY23 Budget; Comment Period Open Now for January 27 Virtual Town Hall

BEL AIR, Md., (Jan. 13, 2022) – Harford County Executive Barry Glassman will host a virtual town hall meeting this month to receive public input on the next county budget.

Harford residents can provide testimony starting now and at the WebEx meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 27, 2022. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m., streamed live on the county website.

"Our virtual town hall is an opportunity for citizens to let us know what they would like to see funded in next year's budget," County Executive Glassman said. "We've made it easy for them to participate, and my budget team and I look forward to hearing their priorities."

Citizens are invited to send in their budget priorities for the county's fiscal year 2023 budget via social media, email, or U.S. Mail, some of which will be read aloud during the live broadcast, which will also include live testimony from people who request to speak at the online event.

To submit your comments:

Email: <u>iGovHarford@harfordcountymd.gov</u> Facebook: <u>Harford County's Virtual Town Hall</u>

Twitter: @iGovHarford

U.S. Mail: Harford County Executive Barry Glassman, 220 S. Main St., Bel Air, Md. 21014

At 6 p.m. on January 27, anyone can also watch the live event on the county's Web page, www.harfordcountymd.gov/VirtualTownHall.

To speak at the live event, register beforehand at iGovHarford@harfordcountymd.gov to receive a link or phone number to join.

The virtual town hall meeting will begin with a brief review of the budget process.

By law, the county executive must propose a budget each April to fund county operations and capital programs for the upcoming fiscal year that begins on July 1. The county executive's recommended budget is based on revenue projections and must be approved by the Harford County Council.

Once the county executive sets operating funding levels, the council may not add funding to any area of the budget except for the public school system. If the council adds funding for the schools, it can only add up to the amount requested by the school board, and only by taking those funds from another area of the general fund.

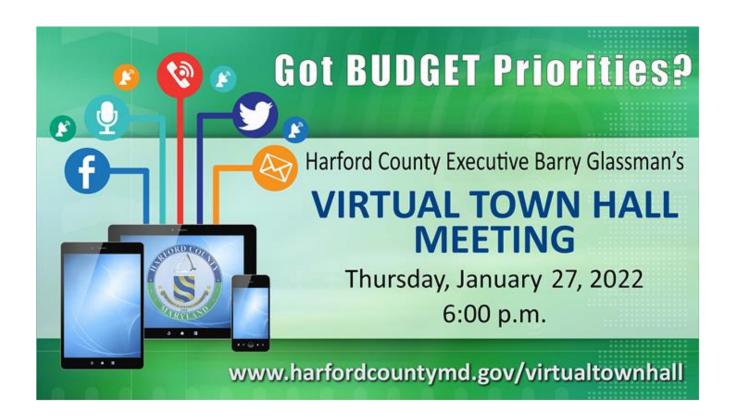
Historically, 50% of all general fund revenues have been dedicated to Harford County Public Schools.

The Glassman Administration fully funded the school board's operating budget request for the past two years, and provided record-level funds for public safety, including full funding of the sheriff's office wage enhancements. Both were done without tax rate increases. In the current budget, property taxes were cut to the constant yield rate.

Other outside agencies, like the community college, public library and health department, depend in full or in part on funding from the county for their operating and capital budgets.

Once county funding for outside agencies is approved by the county council, the agency determines how its budget is spent, based on all revenue sources.

For information about the current county budget, please visit: https://www.harfordcountymd.gov/1531/Budget-Efficiency.



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